

Community Air Toxics Projects

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Communities near industrial facilities and mobile sources of hazardous air pollutants seek the participation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in evaluating the risk posed by those air toxics. EPA can provide monitoring and modeling support, grants, and ongoing technical assistance leading to local risk assessments, and has developed an Air Toxics Risk Assessment Reference Library to support community understanding of the risk assessment process. Other federal agencies such as the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry can provide Public Health Consultations and Assessments, which respond to the community's desire to learn whether existing disease is a likely result of air toxics. The agencies also offer training for state and local programs concerning community involvement and risk assessment, management, and communication. Armed with this information, the community establishes targets for acceptable risk, decides which air toxics pose the greatest threat to them, and which can be managed most efficiently in order to reduce future exposures and risks. Because ambient concentrations of hazardous air pollutants are not regulated at the federal level, managing the risks associated with these pollutants typically involves voluntary action by industry and the public. The success of this cooperative approach requires commitment among stakeholders that is born of collaboration during the project scoping, and during development of the risk assessment and management plans. Examples of this cooperative approach among community and government will be discussed.

Presenter	Topic
<p>MaryBeth Smuts EPA Region 1</p> <p>Madeleine Weil New Haven Community Clean Air Initiative</p>	<p>New Haven, CT, Community Clean Air Initiative Analysis and Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Comprehensive Local Air Inventory ➤ 3-Pronged Reduction Strategy for Mobile, Stationary, Indoor Sources
<p>Emily Andrews St. Louis Association of Community Organizations, St. Louis Community Air Project</p>	<p>Community-based Science and the St. Louis Air Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Partnership and collaboration ➤ Decision making and managing for sustainable and implementable outcomes ➤ Barriers of science regarding public policy and what the community wants to know
<p>Art Williams Louisville Metro Air Pollution Control District</p>	<p>West Louisville Air Toxics Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community involvement ➤ Risk assessment and management
<p>Steve Perry Mobile Air Quality Study</p>	<p>Mobile, Alabama, Air Quality Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Multi stakeholder coalition funding ➤ Local management
<p>Paul Wagner EPA Region 4</p> <p>Hank Topper EPA Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics</p> <p>Bob Safay Agency for Toxics Substances & Disease Registry</p>	<p>Local and Federal Community Air Toxics Collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Framework ➤ Tools and Resources Available to Support Local Decision Making